

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 2-7 without prejudice and substitute for corresponding pending claims the claims as shown rewritten below with amendments effected therein. Appendix I is attached hereto having marked versions of said claims with amendments indicated by brackets and underlining.

1. (Amended) A game system comprising:

a display unit which can display a game screen;

an input unit for supplying a signal corresponding to a player's operation;

and

a game controller for executing a predetermined card game using trump cards on a screen of the display unit with reference to the signal supplied from the input unit, wherein

the game controller includes:

B1 a card deciding device for deciding a plurality of cards displayed on the game screen in a matrix shape,

a betting device for setting the number of lines depending on the value of a play, which a player sets by operating the input device, of a plurality of lines formed by the cards arranged in a predetermined direction on the game screen, as an effective line, and

a dividend controlling device for controlling a dividend for a player respectively according to a combination of the cards on the effective line and a

combination of the cards in a direction different from the direction of the above line, wherein

the line is set in one direction of a vertical direction and a horizontal direction of the matrix,

the betting device increases the number of the effective lines according as the play value increases, and

B1 the dividend controlling device produces the dividend when a successful hand is formed on the effective lines in the card game using the trump cards, and produces the dividend or changes the dividend having been produced when a maximum number of the lines included in the matrix are selected as the effective lines and a predetermined combination is formed by the cards on the maximum number of the effective lines, at least in the diagonal direction or in a direction crossing with the above line at right angle in the matrix.

8. (Amended) The game system according to Claim 1, wherein

B2 the dividend controlling device produces the dividend or changes the dividend having been produced when a predetermined number of the cards of the same mark or the cards of the same number is placed in at least in the diagonal direction or in a direction crossing with the above line at right angle in the matrix.

9. (Amended) The game system according to Claim 1, further comprising:

B2 a selecting device for selecting reception of a dividend or a chance of increasing a dividend when the dividend controlling device produces the dividend, according to a player's instruction given by the input unit; and

a dividend increase controlling device for increasing the dividend if an outcome of the game satisfies a predetermined condition, while performing a predetermined game, when the above chance is selected.

12. (Amended) A game controlling method for executing the following procedures by a computer provided in a game system:

a procedure of deciding a plurality of trump cards displayed on a game screen in a matrix shape,

a procedure of setting the number of lines depending on the value of a play a player sets, of a plurality of lines formed by the cards arranged in a predetermined direction on the game screen, as an effective line, and

B3 a procedure of controlling a dividend for a player respectively according to a combination of the cards on the effective line and a combination of the cards in a direction different from the direction of the above line, wherein

the line is set in one direction of a vertical direction and a horizontal direction of the matrix,

in the procedure of setting the effective line, the number of the effective lines is increased according as the play value increases, and

in the procedure of controlling the dividend, the dividend is produced when a successful hand is formed on the effective lines in a card game using the trump cards, and the dividend is produced or the dividend having been produced is changed when a maximum number of the lines included in the matrix are selected as the effective lines and a predetermined combination is formed by the cards on the maximum number of the effective lines, at least in the diagonal direction or in a direction crossing with the above line at right angle in the matrix.

13. (Amended) A storing medium readable by a computer, with a program stored there, in which the program works the computer provided in a game system
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a card deciding device for deciding a plurality of cards displayed on a game screen in a matrix shape,

a betting device for setting the number of lines depending on the value of a play a player sets, of a plurality of lines formed by the cards arranged in a predetermined direction on the game screen, as an effective line, and

a dividend controlling device for controlling a dividend for a player respectively according to a combination of the cards on the effective line and a combination of the cards in a direction different from the direction of the above line, wherein

the line is set in one direction of a vertical direction and a horizontal direction of the matrix,